



image

#19

ROBERT KIRKMAN CONOR HUGHES PATRICIO DELPECHE

VOID RIFLES



Delpeche

ENERGON UNIVERSE

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LORENZO DE FELICI**

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LANE, MICHAEL COHN, LINDA LEE
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PRESIDENT'S
DAY SALE
STARTING THIS
WEEKEND! BUY
ONE, GET ONE
FREE!

DOUBLE
THE SAVINGS.
DOUBLE THE
VALUE.

OFFER
ONLY
VALID...



WHILE
SUPPLIES
LAST.



DOCTOR, WE'RE
LOSING THE
PATIENT. NO, HE'S A
FIGHTER. THIS ONE'S
TOUGH. HE'LL PULL
THROUGH.

BOTH OF HIM.
DOUBLE YOUR
PLEASURE.
DOUBLE THE
FUN.



HE'S GOT A SLEEK
NEW MODEL WITH
PLENTY OF LEG
ROOM. YES, SIR.
THIS ONE IS RIDING
IN STYLE.

HI, HO, HI, HO,
TO JUNKION
WE GO!

WE READ YOU LOUD
AND CLEAR, BOSS MAN.
SETTING COURSE... FOR
ADVENTURE!



UGH...



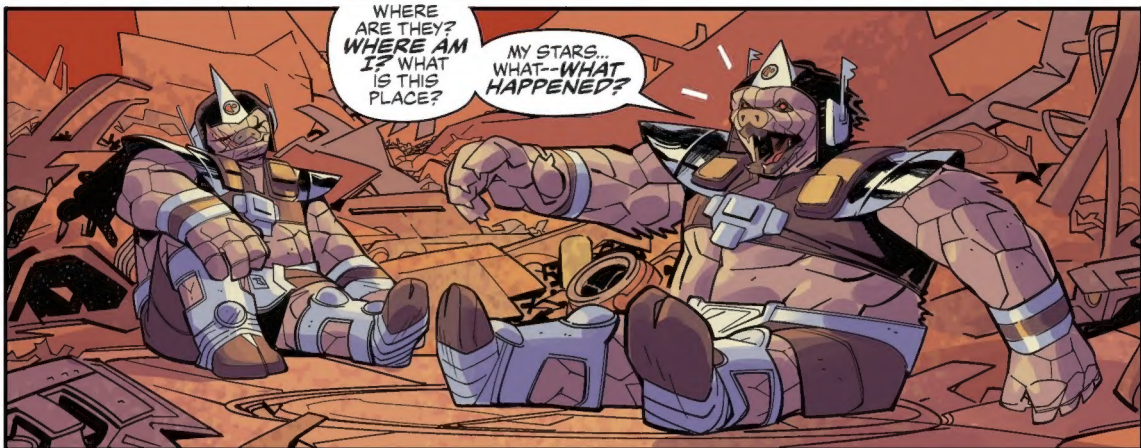
SIT TIGHT,
LITTLE PIGGY.
WE'RE GOING
HOMIE.



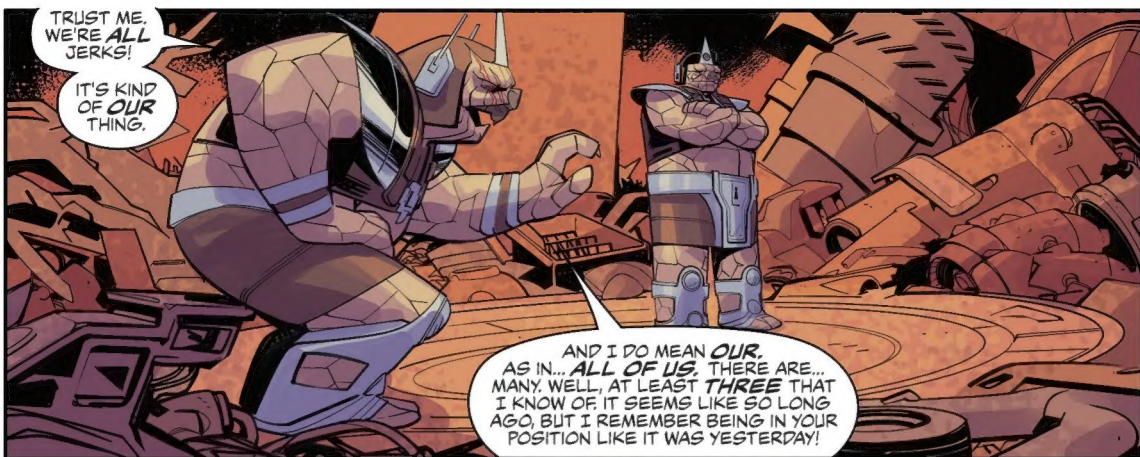
YOU'RE NOT...
MAKING... ANY
SENSE.

JUNKION.









TRUST ME,
WE'RE **ALL**
JERKS!

IT'S KIND
OF **OUR**
THING.

AND I DO MEAN **OUR**.
AS IN... **ALL OF US**. THERE ARE...
MANY, WELL, AT LEAST **THREE** THAT
I KNOW OF. IT SEEMS LIKE SO LONG
AGO, BUT I REMEMBER BEING IN YOUR
POSITION LIKE IT WAS YESTERDAY!



"WHERE IS
MY WIFE?
WHERE ARE
MY KIDS?"

THE SAD
TRUTH IS...
THEY WERE
NEVER **OURS**.
THEY WERE
HIS.



WHO?



I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE'S CALLED...
PROBABLY SKUXROID, BUT THE **FIRST**
ONE. THE ONE WHO FIRST FOUND OUT
THAT IF WE LOSE A BIG ENOUGH PIECE
OF OURSELVES... IT... **GROWS**
ANOTHER ONE.

I CALL
HIM **THE**
ORIGINAL.

THE WIFE, THE
KIDS, THE LIFE
WE REMEMBER...
ALL HIS.



BUT THEY...
FEEL SO **REAL**.
I CAN **HEAR** THEM,
SEE THEM IN MY
THOUGHTS. I KNOW
THEIR HOPES, THEIR
DREAMS... THEIR
DEEPEST FEARS.
THEY WERE...
EVERYTHING
TO ME.

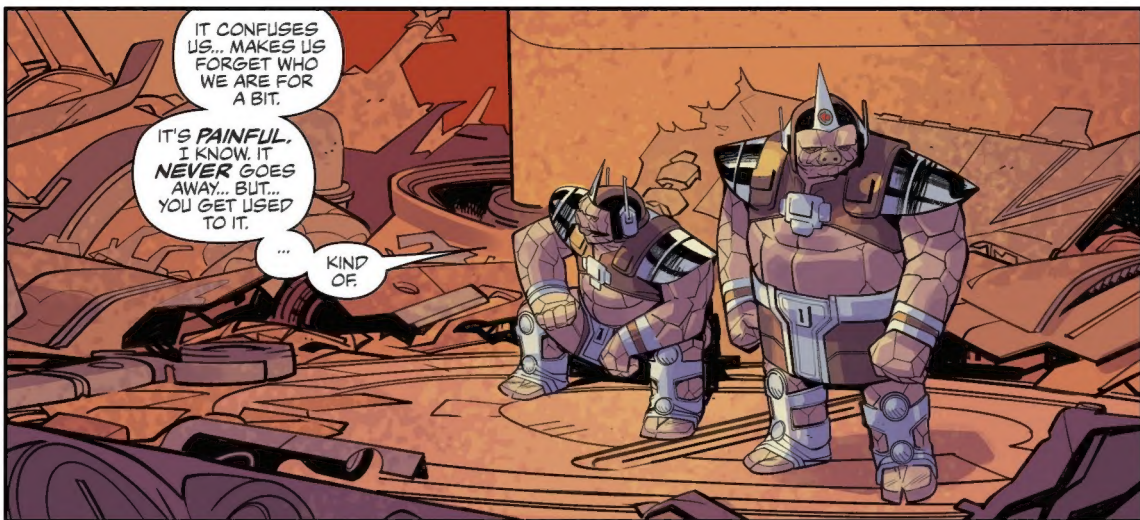
...
I MISS
THEM
TERRIBLY.



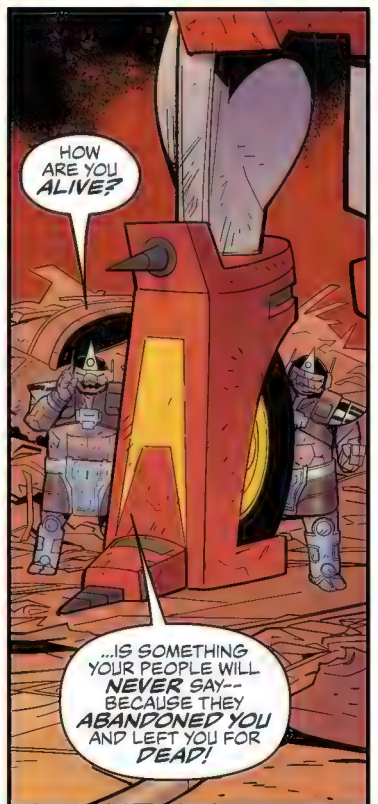
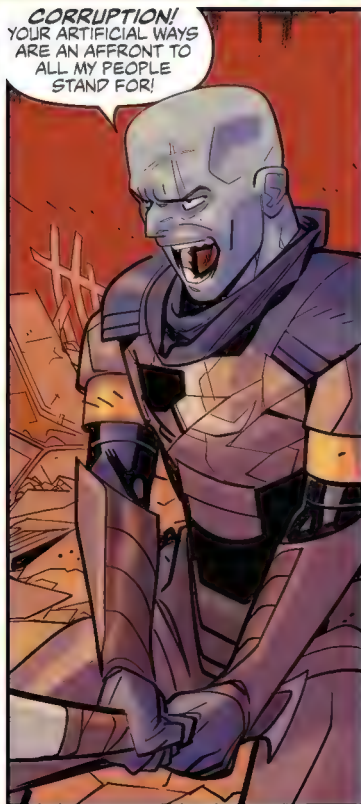
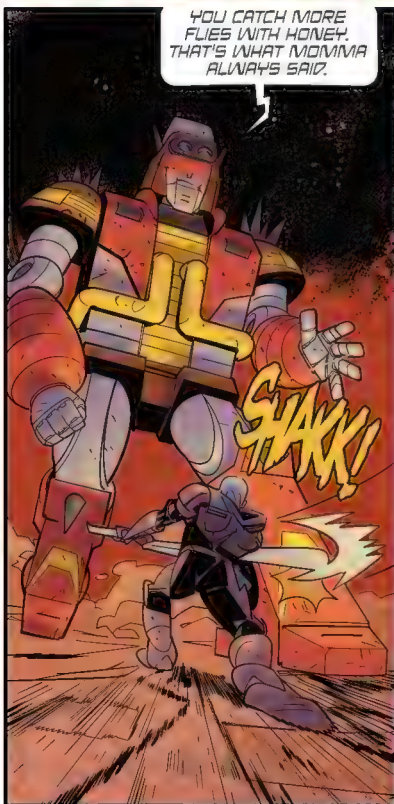
THAT'S OUR
CURSE. TRUST
ME... IT **NEVER**
GETS BETTER.

I FIGURE
THE **ORIGINAL'S**
MEMORIES
ARE THE
STRONGEST...

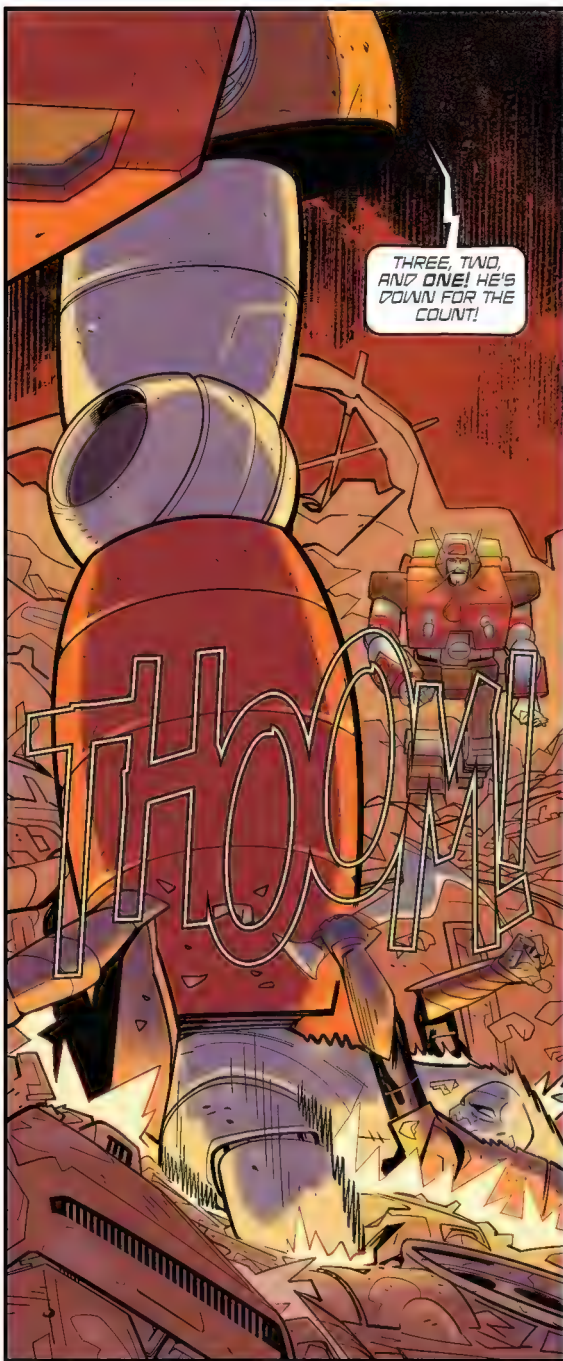
THE
CORE OF OUR
PERSONALITIES.
THEY'RE ALWAYS
OVERRIDING
OUR **TRUE**
MEMORIES.







...IS SOMETHING YOUR PEOPLE WILL NEVER SAY-- BECAUSE THEY ABANDONED YOU AND LEFT YOU FOR DEAD!



THREE, TWO,
AND ONE! HE'S
DOWN FOR THE
COUNT!



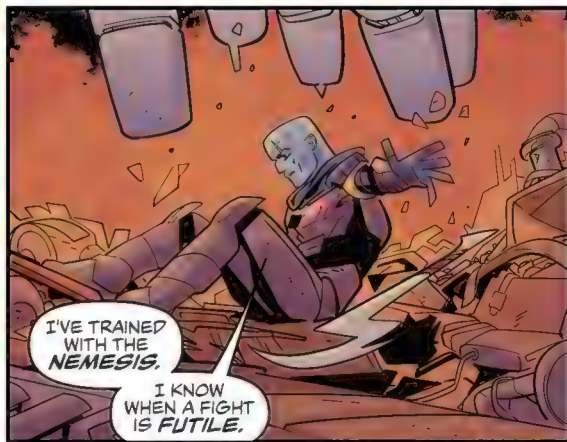
YOU HAVE
NO FRIENDS
HERE.

WHO
ARE YOU
FIGHTING
FOR?



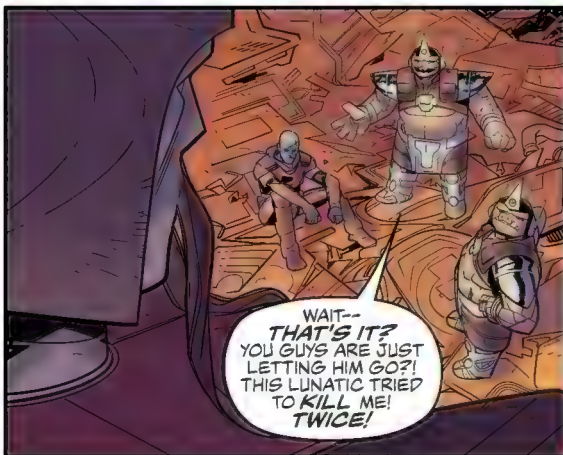
...
FINE,

I
YIELD.



I'VE TRAINED
WITH THE
NEMESIS.

I KNOW
WHEN A FIGHT
IS FUTILE.

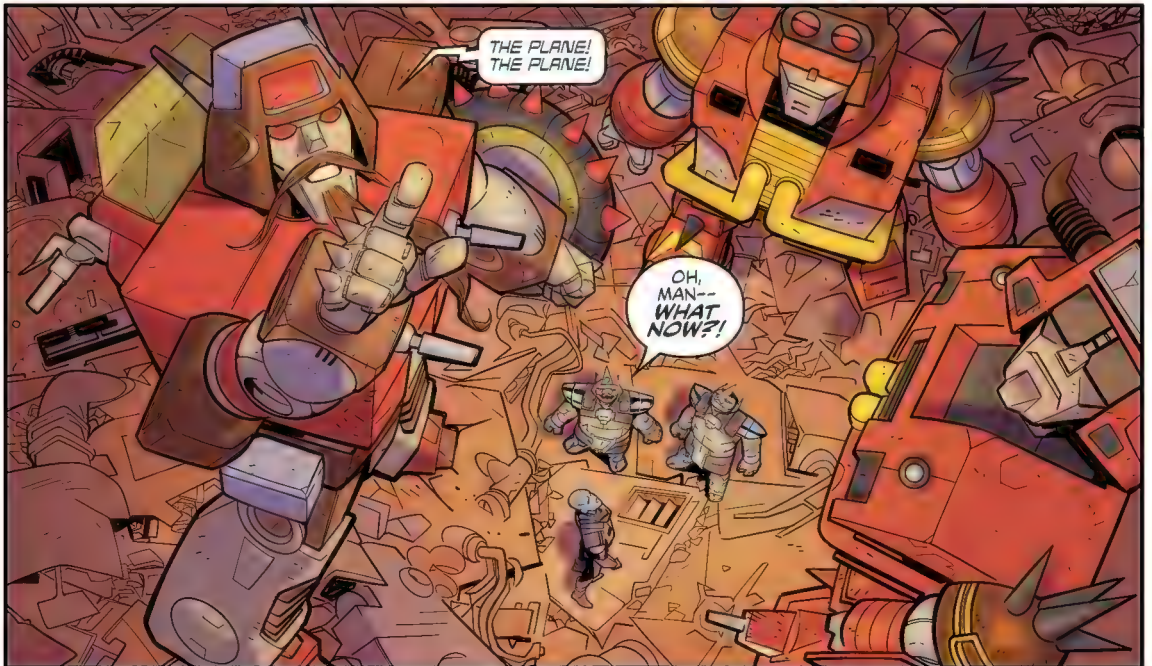


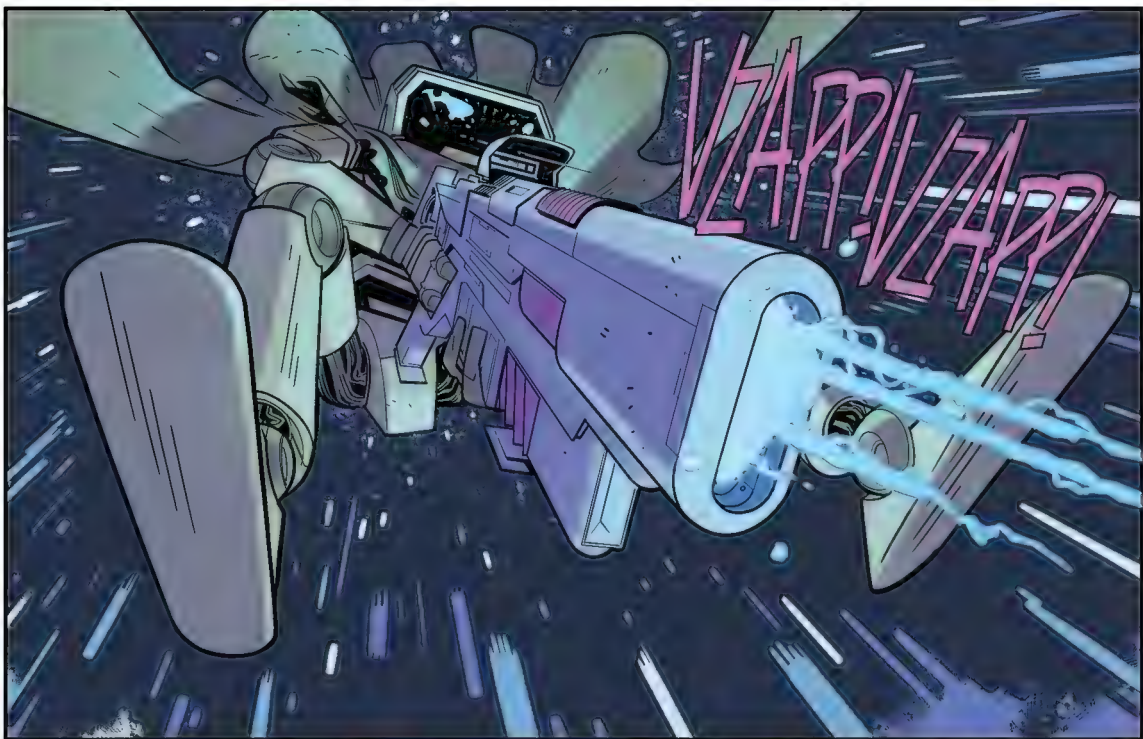
WAIT--
THAT'S IT?
YOU GUYS ARE JUST
LETTING HIM GO?!
THIS LUNATIC TRIED
TO KILL ME!
TWICE!



WE HAVE
NOTHING TO
FEAR, BUT FEAR
ITSELF. HE WHO
IS WITHOUT SIN,
CAST THE FIRST
STONE.

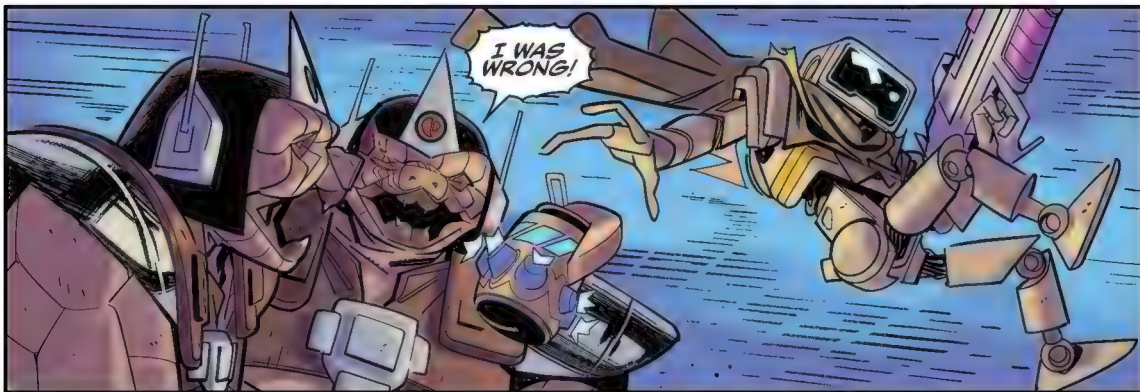
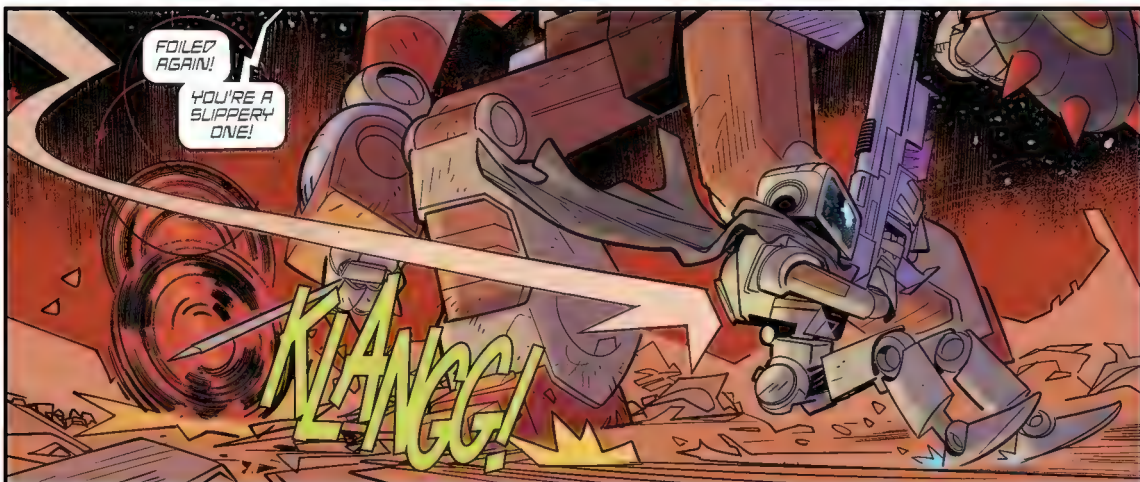
I AM WRECK-GAR,
LEADER OF THE
JUNKIONS. WE ARE
ALL JUNK HERE.





A NEW
CHALLENGER
HAS ENTERED
THE ARENA!

ALL SALES
ARE FINAL. NO
REFUNDS!





WHO ARE YOU?! WHAT DO YOU WANT?!

WHY IS EVERYTHING SO CONFUSING?!



ANSWERS WILL BE REVEALED IN TIME.

TRUST THE ORDER OF ALL THINGS.



REVEALED TO US OR THEM?

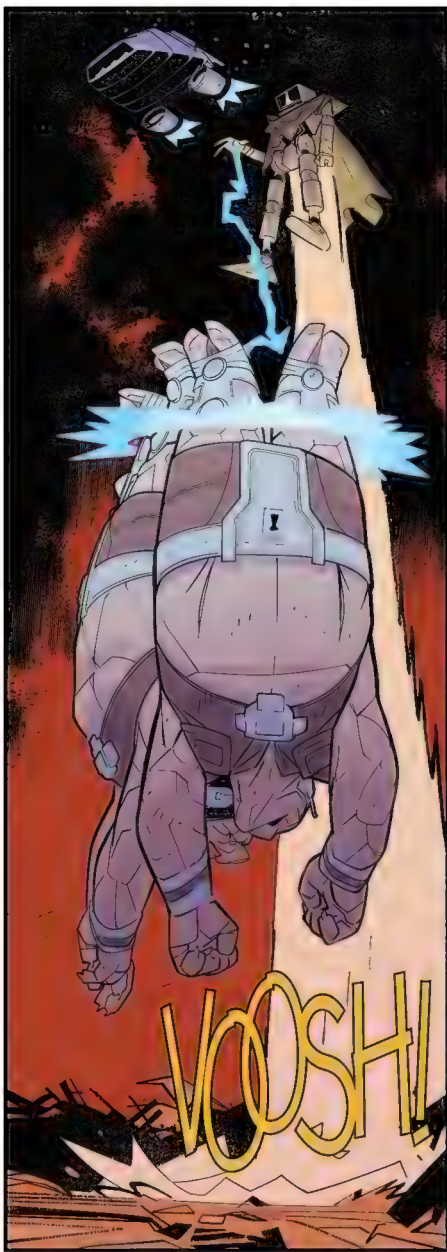
I WANT TO KNOW.



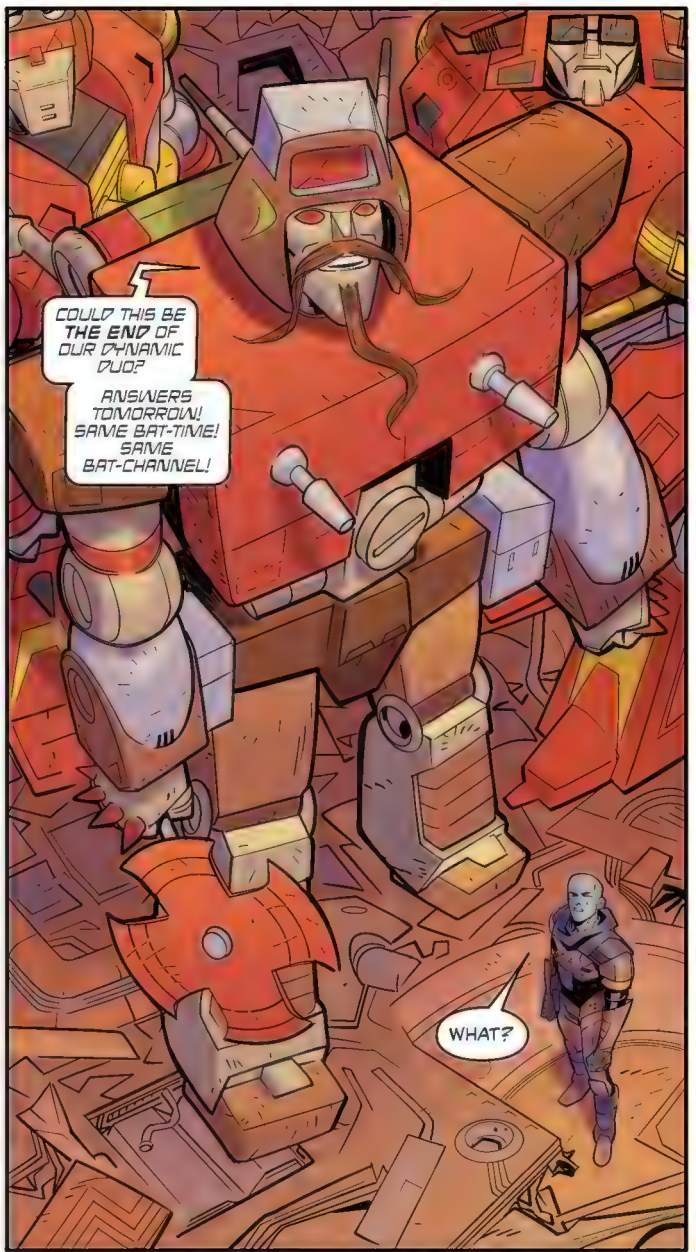
FREEZE, CREEP!

DON'T TOUCH THAT DIAL!

I'M AFRAID I CANNOT COMPLY.



VOOSH!!



COULD THIS BE
THE END OF
OUR DYNAMIC
DUO?

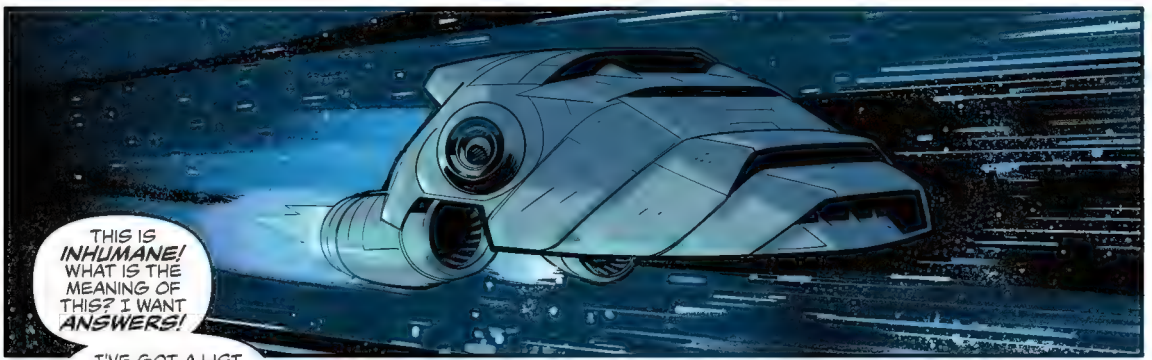
ANSWERS
TOMORROW!
SAVE BAT-TIME!
SAVE
BAT-CHANNEL!

WHAT?

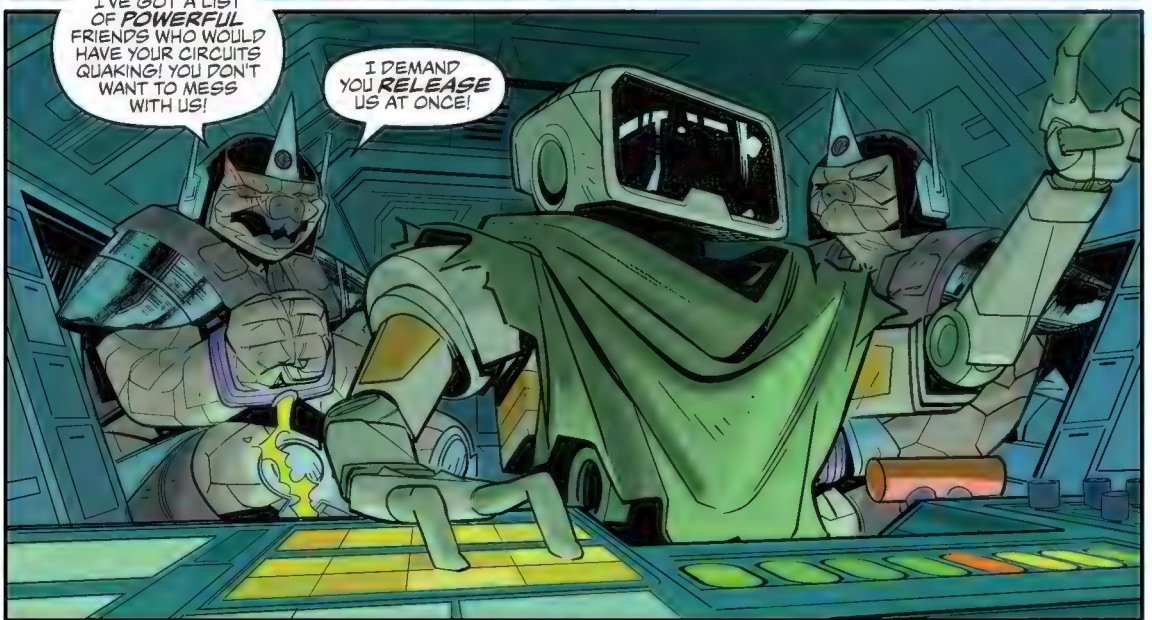


THERE IS
ZERO INDICATION
THAT WE'LL FIND
OUT ANYTHING
ABOUT WHAT JUST
HAPPENED
TOMORROW.

...
YOU
GUYS
ARE **SO**
WEIRD.



THIS IS
INHUMANE!
WHAT IS THE
MEANING OF
THIS? I WANT
ANSWERS!

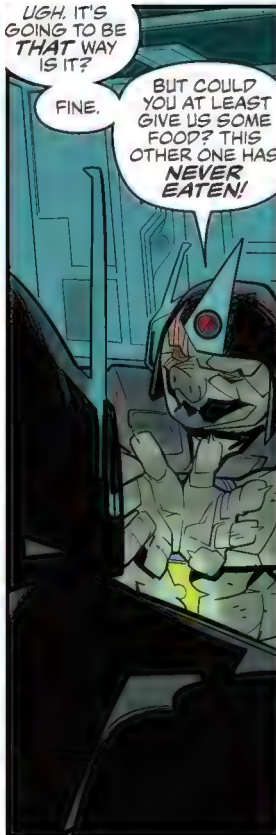


I'VE GOT A LIST
OF **POWERFUL**
FRIENDS WHO WOULD
HAVE YOUR CIRCUITS
QUAKING! YOU DON'T
WANT TO MESS
WITH US!

I DEMAND
YOU **RELEASE**
US AT ONCE!



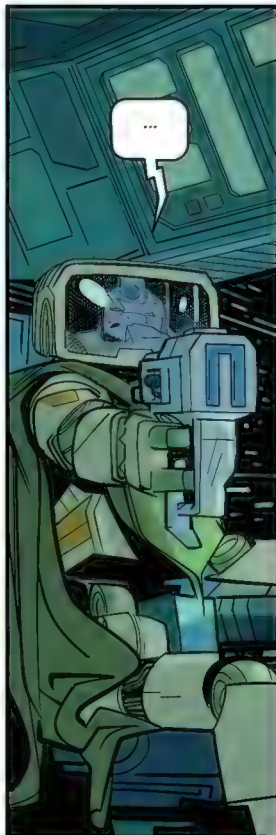
SILENCE.
OR I WILL
SILENCE
YOU.



UGH, IT'S
GOING TO BE
THAT WAY
IS IT?

FINE.

BUT COULD
YOU AT LEAST
GIVE US SOME
FOOD? THIS
OTHER ONE HAS
NEVER
EATEN!

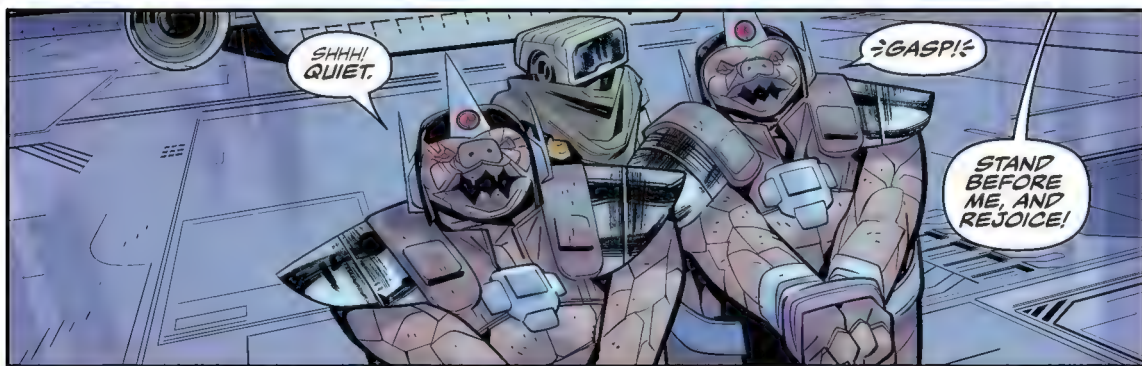
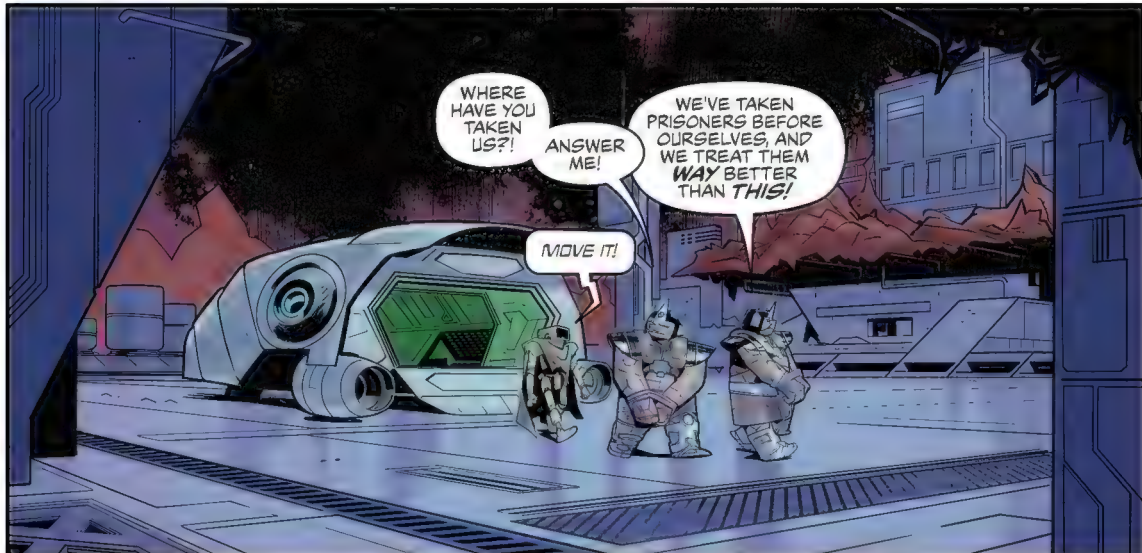


...



SHUTTING
UP NOW.

DEEP SPACE.
LOCATION UNKNOWN.



THE
ARMY OF
SKUXXOID
ALPHA!



TALK TO THE HANDROID

SEND YOUR QUESTIONS TO VOYDRIVALS@SKYBOUND.COM

The mourning period for Skuxxoid is officially OVER...and welcome back to the latest of TALK TO THE HANDROID--I'm your host, Ben Abernathy, and I'm joined once more by the delightful Robert Kirkman.

This may be the first time in history I've been referred to as "the delightful." I'll take it! You know who I WOULD describe as delightful? Editor extraordinaire Ben Abernathy. Not only is he a delightful human, but I'm certainly putting an undo emotional strain on the guy by constantly making him worry. Case in point, he's sweating when I'm going to get this letters column turned around as I type this! Poor guy! I don't do it on purpose, Ben! I swear!

There's no way he actually thinks of me as delightful. Especially not today!

I have to take a moment to talk about Skuxxoid right now. One of the things that makes this series so fun for me is the discovery of it. When I started this series, I could never have imagined there would one day be a stand-alone Skuxxoid issue! And yet, here it is, resting in your hands. The plan was to, as quickly as possible, show that this was a wide-ranging universe that would explore the deepest, darkest, often forgotten corners of the Transformers and G.I. Joe lore. To me, the best way to do that would be to feature a character like say...Skuxxoid right away, at the end of our second issue.

I was banking on most people not knowing who he was. "Who's this cool looking alien pig guy?" I expected them to ask. Then after some quick googling, they'd learn he was featured in the ultra-awesome Transformers season 3 somewhat regularly. I figured he'd have his adventure on the Rockerroid with Darak and Solila

wand then go on his merry way. That was the plan at least.

Skuxxoid, it would seem, had other plans.

This guy took hold of my imagination and just wouldn't let go. Each scene I wrote with him made me think about him more, asking questions, coming up with possible answers to those questions. Each scene I wrote...I just wanted more. Which is how a random side character, planned for one cool scene, has been in nearly every issue until now, where he gets a whole issue dedicated to him.

I sincerely hope you enjoy Skuxxoid as much as we do... because, well, as you can tell from this issue...there's much more to come!

ALSO, BIG NEWS THIS ISSUE!!!

There has been a changing of the guard! Lorenzo De Felici, the brilliant co-creator of this series reached the end of his run as artist with last issue. Lorenzo and I have been working together off an on for...almost ten years at this point. (We started Oblivion Song a couple years before it was launched.) He's become one of my all-time favorite collaborators. So, I hope to be working with him again soon but I'm very, very excited about what he has coming up next and you will be too, I promise, when you find out what it is.

For this next arc, we're welcoming aboard Conor Hughes! As I mentioned last issue, Conor has done a bunch of recent covers for us that are spectacular and holy smokes look how great this issue turned out! Conor has been doing a bunch of comics for a while now. White Ash and The Game with writer Charlie Stickney, both great comics

you should really give a look if you're unfamiliar. You can go to whiteashcomic.com if you want to know more.

I've been admiring Conor's work for years and when I learned Lorenzo's time on this book was ending, I knew Conor would be the perfect fit to dive into this series. He has enormous shoes to fill but I think we all agree after seeing this issue, Conor has the...feet to match. Yeah...I'll stick with that metaphor all the way through. Sure.

Just wait until you see the upcoming issues. Conor is GREAT!!!

Thank you, Robert, and I agree he is great! (As is Lorenzo--who will be staying on VOID RIVALS covers for the foreseeable future, woo!). Conor wrote a hello to all our readers:

Hi folks! What an issue to join the team with--Skuxxoid is such a blast to draw and of course--WRECK-GAR! If you had told me two years ago I'd have been working with Robert Kirkman on VOID RIVALS drawing the Transformers of my childhood I'd have marked you for a Decepticon. Bringing a universe to life that at one time I played with on my living room floor and working alongside a writer whom I've adored since nearly just as long has been the rarest of privileges. If you'd like to know more about me, my previous works include WHITE ASH and THE GAME and otherwise I can be found on all the socials. I very much hope you enjoyed this issue and look forward to what Robert, Patricio, Rus and I have in store for you in the coming months.

It's an honor to have you on VOID RIVALS, my friend.

Yes indeed! So thrilled to be working with you, Conor!!

And we've run out of space and only have room for a single letter (sorry!). More next month, I promise!

Ha! No regrets!

.

Dear Handroid,

Issue 17 just completely blew my mind. I did not fully expect,

although perhaps I should have, for so much of the Agorrians and Zertonians backstory to be directly tied to Cybertron like this! This book continues to surprise and impress me but I suppose I shouldn't be shocked with Robert Kirkman at the helm. The man simply does NOT miss! I am really excited to see where the story goes from here. Clearly neither side is going to be happy about the idea of unity given that they both assume it will lead to complete annihilation by Goliant but it is also what is necessary to avoid the very destruction for which they are so scared of. I have a feeling that Solila and Darak have their work cut out for them going forward. I am also glad that it does not seem that we've seen the end of Proximus and Ultum. I can see them being a very fun duo in the future. This book is filled with really interesting characters and I hope that they continue to not just be tossed aside but kept along for the ride. I even feel that Skuxxoid, who supposedly died last issue, could come back later on. You never know. Anyways, catch y'all next month!

-Cason Jones

Thanks for writing in--and yep, you guessed it about Skuxxoid. And I agree about Proximus and Ultum... I'm really excited to see what comes next for them both!

If there's one single thing that unites all the books I've written, I'd wager it's that the characters are never introduced and then just tossed aside. They all come back, to some degree, and often come back way more than anyone could have expected.

.

And that's a wrap, folks! Thank you for your continued support and please keep the letters rolling in!

-Ben

More letters next issue, we promise!

Thanks for continuing to support our fine series! We're all having the time of our lives and really appreciate it! The party continues next issue! Be there!!

-Robert

DANIEL WARREN JOHNSON JORGE CORONA MIKE SPICER

TRANSFORMERS



Image

#21



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ROBERT KIRKMAN

CONOR HUGHES

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1st print

VOID RIVALS

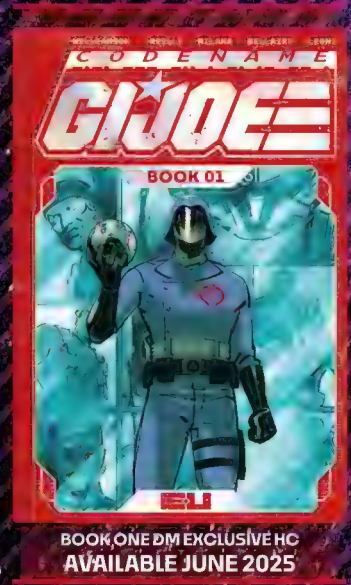
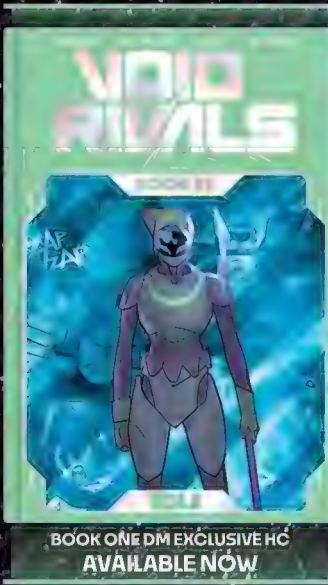
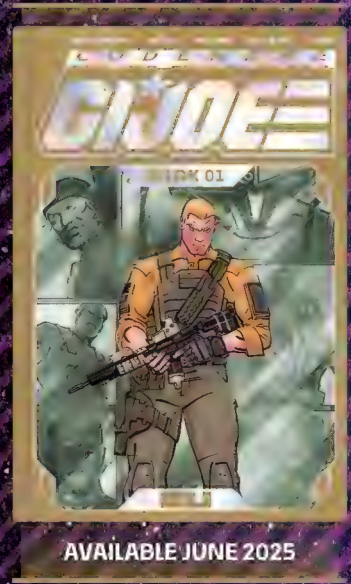
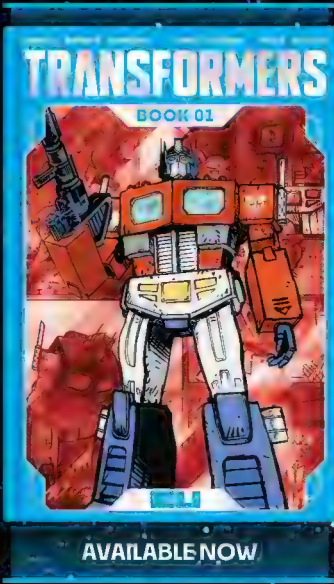


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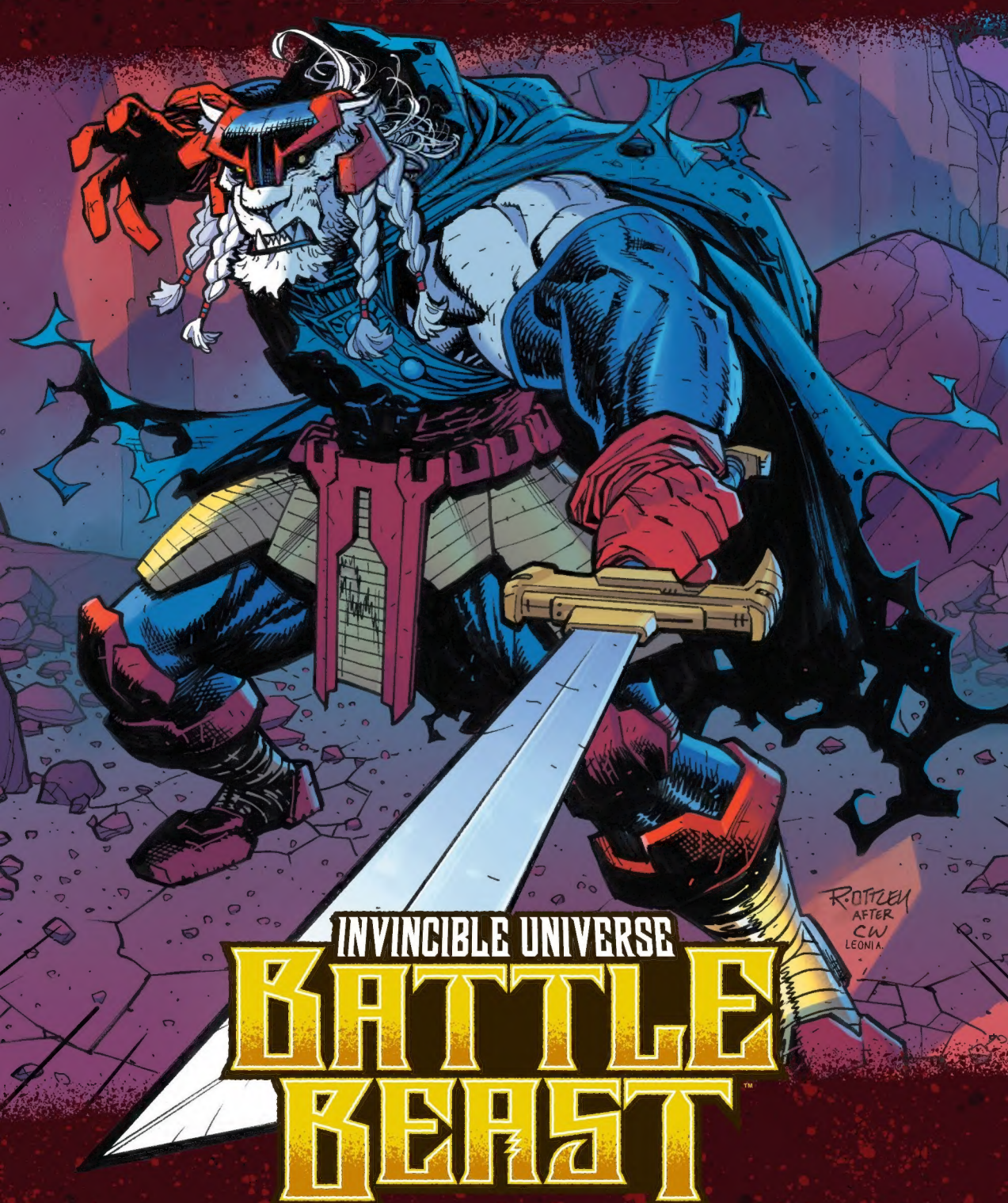
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MARZ JR.

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- ROBERT KIRKMAN (*INVINCIBLE*, *VOID RIVALS*)

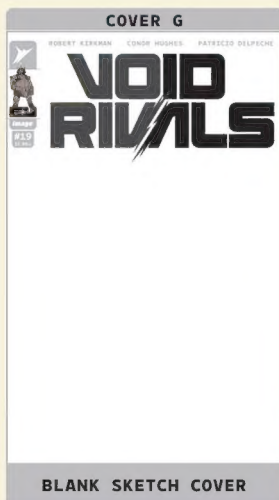
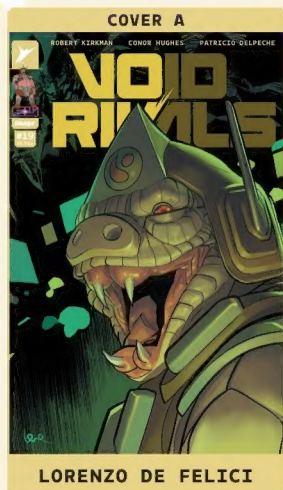
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